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(b) whether the rates of such allowances have been raised since 1—6—1960; 3-10 p.m.

(c) whether such an enhanced allowance is paid to all Government and Local body servants at Rameswaram, including the teachers employed in the District Board High School at Rameswaram; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) Yes.

(b) The expensive locality allowance is regulated with reference to the average pay of the post of the Government servant and for this puropse, the Government servants have been grouped into dearness allowance with pay, with effect from 1st June 1960, the grades have been regrouped taking into account the average pay with reference to the revised scales of pay.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER: Sir, will this compensatory allowance be made applicable to elementary school teachers serving in panchayat union schools in Rameswaram? They suffer from non-receipt of the allowance.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: I have answered 'Yes' to clause (c) of the question.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER: Do the Panchayat Union elementary school teachers come within the category of local body servants?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKATAVATSALAM: They come within the category of 'local body servants'.

State Seed Farms

* 87 Q.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of State Seed Farms opened during the Second Five-Year Plan period;

(b) the number closed down and the number in existence at the end of the Second Plan;

(c) the number, if any, which work at a loss and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any State Seed Farms are proposed to be opened during the Third Five-Year Plan period and if so, the number thereof?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN: (a) 225.

(b) No. of farms closed 91

No. of farms in existence at the end of Second Plan period 134

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(c) As on 31st March 1962, 49 farms located in 16 centres had not yielded economic returns. 38 of these farms were located on Government waste lands which required reclamation and provision of irrigation and drainage facilities. In respect of the remaining 11 farms located on requisitioned lands, the uneconomic return was due to adverse seasonal conditions.

(d) Yes, 76 State Seed Farms are proposed to be opened in Third Plan period.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Sir, may I know how many closed seed farms have been re-opened?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : I have no information with me, Sir.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Sir, lands were acquired and also taken on lease for seed farms. May I know the figures of the acreage for each ?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : Lands were acquired for 42 farms. 732.85 acres wet lands, 210.21 acres dry lands, and 110.75 acres garden lands were acquired for these 42 farms. 48 farms are on poramboke lands. The acreage of these farms is, 307.01 acres wet lands, 1,107.63 acres dry lands, and 59.18 acres garden lands. Lands for 41 farms were requisitioned. The acreage is, 624.22 wet lands, 341.82 acres dry lands, and 70.25 acres garden lands.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Are the Government satisfied that the lands taken on lease for seed farms are cultivated and working properly? Or is there any difficulty?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : Some of them are not worked properly. So, we have to leave them out.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : May I know whether the seed farms are closed because there is loss in one year or there have been losses successively for a number of years?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : After watching the results for one or two years, they are closed.

Loans to Harijans

88. *Q.*— DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the kinds of loans granted to Harijans for agricultural purposes ; and

(b) the criteria on which loans are granted to Harijans?

THE HON. SRI P. KAKKAN : (a) *and* (b) No loans are granted exclusively to Harijans for agricultural purposes. Loans are granted to agriculturists under the Land Improvement Loans Act and the Agricultural Loans Act, subject to the terms and conditions laid down for the purpose. These loans ar eknown as Takkavi loans and, like all other agriculturists, the Harijans are also eligible for